

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1 to 8, 10 and 21 to 25 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Sarring, U.S. Patent No. 3,722,336, in view of Aspinwall et al., U.S. Patent No. 3,889,564.

Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested.

35 U.S.C. §103 (a) Rejections

Claims 1 to 8, 10 and 21 to 25 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Sarring, U.S. Patent No. 3,722,336, in view of Aspinwall et al., U.S. Patent No. 3,889,564.

Sarring shows feed, transport and delivery mechanisms for a two-station, three-knife book trimmer. (See col. 1; lines 5 to 7).

Aspinwall shows a book holder comprising a base 16 with a fixed rear wall 17. One or more books B are pressed forwardly by the wall 17, with the portion of the book to be trimmed off extending beyond a trim line 21. See col. 1, lines 60 to 63.

Claim 1 recites a transfer apparatus for a sheet material article trimmer, the transfer apparatus comprising:

a transfer element configured to grip the sheet material article and move the sheet material article in a transfer direction onto a moving side table of the sheet material article trimmer, the moving side table carrying the sheet material article; and

a driver configured to move the transfer element at a same speed as the moving side table during a first time period, the speed of the side table and the transfer element varying during the first time period, when the sheet material article is gripped by the transfer element and the side table is moving in the transfer direction.

Neither Sarring nor Aspinwall disclose a moving “the sheet material article in a transfer direction onto a moving side table” as recited in claim 1. Sarring shows that the second station does not move and in fact there is no side table; the book is supported only by the transport belts which are indexed to stop before and during the side cutting. (See col. 5; lines 6 to 20). As acknowledged on Page 2 of the Office Action, Sarring does not teach a side table.

Aspinwall shows a chain conveyor 13 carrying book holder 14 comprising a base 16 with a fixed rear wall 17. Book holder 14 holds books at a forward incline. Aspinwall does not show moving books “in a transfer direction onto a moving side table of the sheet material article trimmer.” There is no disclosure in Aspinwall that suggests books are placed on base 16 while being moved in the transfer direction 14*. In Aspinwall, the books originate on book holder 14 and remain on book holder 14 throughout the cutting station; the books are not moved to book holder 14.

Furthermore, Sarring nor Aspinwall show “the speed of the side table and the transfer element varying during the first time period.” There is no disclosure in Aspinwall that supports the speed of book holder 14 “varying” as recited in claim 1.

Thus, Sarring in view of Aspinwall does not disclose all of the limitations of claim 1.

Claim 25 recites a similar limitation “move the sheet material article in a transfer direction onto a side table of the sheet material article trimmer.”

For the reasons set forth above with respect to claim 1, it is respectfully submitted that Sarring in view of Aspinwall does not show all of limitations recited in claim 25.

Withdrawal of the rejections to claims 1 to 8, 10 and 21 to 25 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) is therefore respectfully requested.

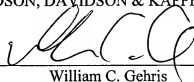
CONCLUSION

It is respectfully submitted that the present application is now in condition for allowance, and Applicants respectfully request such action.

Respectfully submitted,

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